

THE RIO NEWS.

PUBLISHED ON THE 5th, 15th AND 24th OF EVERY MONTH.

VOL. IX.

RIO DE JANEIRO, DECEMBER 5TH, 1882

NUMBER 34

OFFICIAL DIRECTORY

AMERICAN LEGATION.—No. 7, Rua Novas das Laranjeiras.
THOMAS A. OSBORN, Minister.
BRITISH LEGATION.—No. 8, Travessa de D. Manuel, EDWIN CORBETT, Minister.
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BRITISH CONSULATE GENERAL.—No. 8, Travessa de D. Manuel, GEORGE THORNE RICKETTS, Consul General.
AMERICAN NAVAL OFFICE.—No. 5, Rua Freixo, D. P. WIGHT, C. S. PAYMASTER.

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RAILWAYS.

DOM PEDRO II.—Through Express, *Upanári*, leaves Rio at 5 a.m.; arriving at Barra junction at 5:30 a.m., Entre Rios Central line 6:30 a.m., Barreiros 3:45 p.m., Porto Novo branch (from Rio) 12 m., Cadoreira (S. Paulo branch) 6:15 a.m., São Paulo (for S. P. & Rio R. R.) 6 p.m., Deodoro's line leaves São Paulo 6 a.m., Cadoreira 8:30 a.m., Porto Novo 12:15 p.m.; arriving at Barra 4:15 and Rio 7:15 p.m. Connects with Valençana line at Desengano, Rio das Flores line at Comerçante, União Mineira line at Seraria, Oeste de Minas, São João (El Rey) line at São Joaquim, Bequimão line at Porto Novo; Recende e Araxá line at Sindey; and S. Paulo and Rio de Janeiro line at Caçador.

Intiated Express.—*Upanári*, leaves Rio 7:15 a.m.; arriving at Barra 10:20 a.m.; Rio Novo (central line) 7:05; Cachoeira 6:5 a.m., Paulo branch 1:30 p.m.; *Dominical*, leaves Cadoreira 6:45 a.m., Rio Novo 5:30 a.m.; arriving at Barra 1:45 and 1:50 p.m., Rio 3:45 p.m. Stops at all stations. Connects with Santa Cruz branch at Sapopema, and Macacos branch at Belém.

Strad Tonais.—Leave Rio at 10:30 a.m. and 4:10 p.m. arrive, from Belém, 7:15 a.m., from Pará 8:45 a.m., from Ense Rio leaving 6:07 a.m. at 7:08 p.m.

São Francisco.—Passenger trains leave at 6:00, 7:45, 8:45 and 10:22 a.m., and 1:05, 2:15, 3:30, 4:30, 5:30, 6:30, 8:30 and 10:00 p.m. in all stopping at Cascadura except the 10 p.m. train, which runs to Sapopema. Running the trains leave Sapopema at 5:30 and Cascadura at 5:30, 6:15, 7:45, 8:45, 10, and 11:35 a.m., and 1:05, 2:30, 4:30, 5:30, 7, 8:30 and 9:45 p.m.

Cariacica.—Leaves Niterói Santa Anna 7:30 a.m., arriving at Nova Friburgo 105 Cuiabá 1 hour per day by way of Cantagalo, 4:25 and Manoel 5:45 p.m. Return leaves Manoel 5:30, Cordon 5:30 and Nova Friburgo 11:10 a.m., arriving at Niterói 4:35 p.m. A ferry boat runs between Rio and Santa Anna, connecting with trans.

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May 1st, 1882.

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THE RIO NEWS

PUBLISHED TRIMONTHLY.

on the eve of departure of the American packet
the French packet of the 15th, and Royal
Mail packet of the 24th, of the month.

A. J. LAMOUREUX, Editor and Proprietor.

Contains a summary of news and a review of Brazilian affairs; a list of the arrivals and departures of foreign vessels, the commercial report and price current of the market, tables of stock quotations and sales, a table of heights and charters, and a other information necessary to a correct judgment on Brazilian trade.

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All subscriptions should run with the calendar year. Back numbers supplied at this office from April 1st, 1879.

Subscriptions and advertisements received at the

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CITY TELEPHONE ADDRESS:—No. 172.

Agent for the United States and Canada:
THE INTERNATIONAL NEWSPAPER AGENCY,
New Haven, Conn.

SPECIAL NOTICE.—The remaining numbers for the present year will be sent gratis to all new subscribers for 1883.

RIO DE JANEIRO, DECEMBER 5TH, 1882.

In discussing the question of coffee production, the *Correio Paulistano* of the 30th ultimo lays down some very good doctrine for the benefit of its readers. After quoting some remarks of a colleague on the great fertility of some of the new districts and on the expected action of the government in the matter of reduced freights, the *Correio* remarks that it should not be forgotten that the best way to meet the present crisis is not to abandon the contest, but to overcome foreign competition through the superior quality and preparation of the Brazilian product. Instead of seeking to produce enormous crops, as has heretofore been the rule, more attention should be given to the preparation of the crop for market. "To produce less, but better," seems to the *Correio* to be a wiser policy just now than to merely increase the quantity. To attain this object a higher cultivation (*intensiva*) is essential in place of the old system of extended cultivation (*extensiva*). The latter has had its day, with its large areas scanty cultivation, large crops, and speedily exhausted soil. The former, with its restricted areas, high cultivation, fertilized soils, and augmented product, must henceforth be the system to be followed. The object of the industry, as in all others, should be quality instead of quantity. And in this the *Correio* is perfectly right. One of the first steps to be taken to meet the present crisis in the coffee trade is an improvement in the quality of the product. The day of high prices has gone by, never to return. It is possible that war or the failure of a crop may bring about a temporary rise in prices, but like the permanent face of prices on wheat following the enormous production in the Mississippi basin, it is evident that coffee has gone down to remain. The only remedy, therefore, is to decrease the costs of production, and to increase the quality of the product so as to command the best and largest market. It is a very general trait among men—and a good one withal—to be willing to pay a better price for a better article, and it is just this trait of character to which the Brazilian planter should appeal. With such an effort the government can have no part, and the planter is wasting time in expecting it. The most the government can do is to abolish its export duties, and to reform its legislation which discriminates against small planters. In general terms, the greater the number of small producers the better will be the product, for the small planter will employ a higher

cultivation and secure better average results than the old-fashioned planter ever dreamed of. As a beginning however, the planters will find the *Correio's* advice good, and worth putting into practice without delay.

The Paraguayan government, according to a private telegram from Paraná of the 24th ultimo, has abolished all export duties on Paraguayan tea (*herve mate*), the exemption to take effect on the 1st of January next. This step, says the telegram, has produced a great decline in prices in River Plate markets, from which it is inferred that "If the Brazilian government does not protect our industry of Paraná, it will shortly disappear, not being able to undergo the competition." All of which is very true. It will be interesting to know just here what kind of protection the good people of Paraná desire. Manifestly the remedies of Dr. Felicio dos Santos and the Club Industrial will not serve to good purpose here. No discriminating duties can be levied on the Paraguayan product, because it is outside of Brazilian jurisdiction. In none of the stereotyped ways can the Brazilian enterprise be protected. It might be, however, that the government could help the Paraná industry by paying it a bonus equivalent to the difference in cost as compared with that of Paraguay, or—in an extreme case—it might abolish the Brazilian export tax altogether. This, however, is quite out of the question. The government has just taken 2 per cent. off of this tax, in connection with cotton, sugar and coffee, and the loss has been so great to the imperial revenue that an additional "10 per cent." has been put upon imports, and the ware house taxes have been largely increased. Were the export duty of 7% on *mata* to be abolished, there is no telling what might happen to imports. It is against both tradition and established usage to let up on one single tax, or rate of taxation. The precedent would be fatal. And then, were the *mata* gathering to be exempted from export taxation because of Paraguayan competition, the cattle-raisers would claim a similar exemption on jerked beef because of Platine competition, the cotton-growers because of American competition, and the sugar-planters because of Cuban competition. Under the existing system—that of extreme taxation on both imports and exports—the only safe way is to open the public treasury to all crippled industries, and to keep up the taxes to the top notch, even "if we don't make a cent."

ONE of the coolest propositions that we have lately seen is that of the Villa Isabel tramway company of this city. Outside of Buraque de Macedo's offer to give away the Botanical Garden line at the termination of its privilege, this proposal is unequalled. After having secured a concession on certain terms and conditions, among which were the opening of an avenue, the establishment of a zoological garden at Villa Isabel, and various other so-called improvements, the company has now come to the conclusion that all these undertakings will cost a round sum of money. They now estimate the cost at over 4,000,000\$. Whether they were mistaken or not at the outset, we are not informed. It may be, as sometimes occurs, that they were quite willing to promise anything at the outset to get the concession, and trusted that time and effective lobbying would help them safely out of all their onerous engagements. They now propose that in compensation for opening an avenue between Villa Isabel and Rua do Senador Eusébio, the construction of a permanent exhibition palace on the grounds of the old slaughter house, and the establishment of a zoological garden at Villa Isabel, that the government shall grant them the

following favors: 1st, an extension of time the privilege to date from the opening of the avenue; 2nd, a track through the new avenue; 3rd, the use of the lines of the São Christovão company after the expiration of their privilege; 4th, a privileged area, including that now belonging to the São Christovão company in addition to their own; 5th, their 35-years' privilege to date from the termination of the privilege now held by the São Christovão company; 6th, limitation of free passes to postal agents, and policemen in actual service; 7th, the use in usufruct of the old slaughter house grounds and the rental of the proposed exhibition palace. It sounds like a great deal to ask, but the directors of the Villa Isabel company have not been frightened at that. They evidently believe in asking and in asking for just a little more than it is possible to get. The São Christovão privilege has eleven years yet to run, and, if we mistake not, the company is not required to surrender its property to the state. To grant the modest request of the Villa Isabel directors, the government would have to either buy or confiscate this property. This must be accepted, however, as a legitimate outgrowth of a system which compels the ultimate surrender of property as the price of a permission to carry on an enterprise, and which makes the government's will the supreme law.

The Patiá tax complication still remains unsolved. In response to the protests of the mercantile classes against the new tax of 2 per cent. upon the gross amount of their sales, the president of the province telegraphs to the ministry that the tax has been reduced to 1% per cent., and that the production of books will not be obligatory. He states also that the assessments will be based upon the written declarations of the merchants themselves, except in cases of omission or fraud, when recourse will be had to a commission of arbitration. This is, of course, a slight concession to the protests of the merchants—an ala very slight one at that. The concession of one-half per cent. on an oppressive and most vexatious tax is hardly worth consideration. Burdensome as a tax of 2 per cent. on the gross sales of a merchant will certainly be, the principle of such a tax is by far the most objectionable. Even were the tax but a small fraction of one per cent., the mercantile classes should resist it to the bitter end. A tax on gross receipts would be bad enough under the most favorable circumstances, but in this case it is even worse. It is a tax on the gross sales, including cash sales—of which unfortunately there are very few—on credit sales, on cost sales, on bad debts, on everything. Those who know the system on which business is done in this country—the long credit system—will at once understand how oppressive and injurious this tax will be. The merchant, who sells his goods on long credit, as the great majority of them do, and with all the risks of hard times, stagnant industries and scarcity of money which at present characterize the state of affairs all through the country, certainly can not afford to take off anything from his margins as a tax. At this time his profits are not at all certain, and even if they were there is no warrant whatever for a tax upon all his bad debts and time accounts. Add to this the necessity of paying this tax in advance, which makes it in large part a percentage upon unliquidated accounts, and the gross injustice of the measure becomes clearly apparent. Were the government to make this an income tax on all citizens possessing an income above a certain exempted sum, there could then be no complaint. This, however, is just what is not done, and what the government does not wish to do. Such a tax would affect classes

which now escape many of the burdens of taxation, and would give relief to the mercantile classes upon whose shoulders the major part of the burdens are now piled. Then as to the relief from the obligatory production of books, the concession is more for effect than for practical use. There still remains the "except in cases of omission or fraud," which will be sufficient to keep the merchant under official inspection and annoyance. The whole measure is iniquitous to the last degree, and can have no other result than the injury of all honest mercantile enterprise.

At the session of the municipal council on the 27th ultimo, Alderman Malvino Reis presented a project relating to the acquirement of industrial statistics which merits more than a passing notice. We may be mistaken in our interpretation of this measure, but until it is modified in some particulars we shall be compelled to look upon it as a bit of legislation in the interests of a few favored individuals. The project provides that licenses will be granted to industrial establishments in this municipality only after the applicant shall have filled out a chart, in duplicate, stating the class of his industry, the motive power employed, the annual valuation, and all other information required. One of the copies so filled out is to be deposited in the municipal archives, and the other handed over to the Associação Industrial, of which, if we mistake not, the above-named alderman is a member. At first glance this measure appears to be all right, because it is designed to place certain valuable statistics in the hands of the city government. But is this all? If the object is merely to obtain certain statistics, why is one of the reports to be handed over to a private association, composed mainly of manufacturers? Why would it not do just as well to take a census every five or ten years, and then secure all desired information on such general points as may be of public interest? Why is the relation of subjects, on which information is desired, left so indefinite? Are we not justified in suspecting this to be a shrewd move on the part of the Associação Industrial to get control of the granting of licenses, or to acquire an opportunity to secure private information upon industries which may compete with those represented in its membership? And what right has this private association to a special copy of these reports? If we mistake not one of the officers of this association is largely interested in cotton manufacturing, and is constantly claiming government protection for his enterprises. Why should this gentleman be provided with detailed information as to the establishment of a competitor, which may enable him to crush or forestall the projected competition? Another officer of this association is a printer and bookbinder, who has already been highly表扬ed in the customs legislation of this country. Why should this gentleman be specially informed as to the plant and administration of a new competitor? Another officer of this association is interested in a foundry and iron-works, and is an ardent advocate of restricted competition. Why should this gentleman be supplied with all the details of an enterprise which proposes to compete with him in the open market? And then there are hatters, and furniture-makers, and biscuit manufacturers, and brewers, and "artificial wine" manufacturers, and scores of other industries represented in this society. Why should any of them be so specially favored, and in a way which can easily be turned to their advantage, and to the detriment of every applicant for permission to carry on a competing industry? There can certainly

be no objection to supplying the proper official with all needful information on these matters, but the compulsory answering of all possible questions about a man's private affairs, and in the interests of a private corporation like the Associação Industrial, is decidedly objectionable. It will reflect no credit upon the municipal authorities who so readily play into the hands of private societies, and will serve no useful end either statistically or as an encouragement to the establishment of new industries.

On the afternoon of the 22nd ultimo the merchants of Bahia met at the rooms of the Commercial Association for the purpose of drawing up a formal protest against the continued imposition of additional provincial duties on imports. Although the government had promptly acceded to the demands of the merchants of Pernambuco and had suspended similar tax, the same impost remained in force at Bahia, and no steps whatever had been taken to abolish it. It is true that the last General Assembly enacted that the provinces should not impose taxes of this character, but still the merchants of Bahia were called upon to pay the obnoxious and doubly illegal "10 per cent." The result of their meeting on the 22nd ultimo was a resolution—signed by three hundred merchants—not to dispatch any more goods until the suspension of the tax, and to petition the government for relief. All business was at once brought to a halt. No more goods were taken out of the custom house; the steamship companies were embarrassed because of the sudden accumulation of goods in the lighters; and there was an abrupt suspension of all classes of labor dependent upon the moving of imported goods. Telegrams were at once sent to the imperial government asking that the tax be suspended, and that the importers of Bahia be relieved from a tax both illegal and discriminating. On the 24th the prime minister informed the president of Bahia that the imperial government could do nothing in the matter, and that the solution depends upon the provincial assembly. This resolution was an express abandonment of the position assumed in the Pernambuco case. Our readers will remember that the response of the government to the protest of the Pernambuco merchants was an immediate suspension of the tax, on the grounds of its unconstitutionality. The precedent once established, all merchants were equally entitled to its protection. Since the Pernambuco case, however, the General Assembly has enacted an express prohibition upon all such provincial imposts, thus making their further imposition doubly illegal and strengthening the hands of the general government in their suppression. Notwithstanding all this, the ministry deliberately goes back on its previous action, and denies the relief demanded by the merchants of Bahia. These two cases are exactly identical—the taxes being the same both as to character and amount. The case of Bahia is even stronger than its predecessor as it has a subsequent legislative prohibition on all such taxes. And yet the government refuses to interfere, and relegates the matter to the provincial assembly. In other words, the imperial government whose constitution and laws have been broken, refers the whole matter to this very law-breaker for settlement. A more impotent solution of an important matter can not be imagined. We are glad to note, however, that the Bahia importers held firm, and that a satisfactory compromise with the president of that province has been effected. In consideration of the demands of commerce, and of the justice of the claims put forward by the merchants, the president has suspended the tax until the meeting of the provincial assembly, which is called for the

10th instant. During this interval the merchants will dispatch their goods free from the additional provincial tax, and business will be resumed. It is to be hoped that the provincial assembly will lose no time in abolishing the obnoxious tax and in satisfying the just claims of the mercantile classes. Should it refuse, however, or fail to enact the requisite repeal, the difficulties will be even greater than at present. The general government having abdicated its powers, and the provincial legislature feeling inclined to collect the impost just as long as it can be done, the merchants will be placed in a most embarrassing position. Knowing that their claims are just and that the tax is illegal, they will have no redress whatever. Were there a competent court to which they could appeal, or had the general government retained its power to settle disputes of this character, there would then be some recourse for them, but as it now stands they have nothing of the sort. For protection against an encroachment they are referred to the encroaching power itself, and there abandoned. The case reflects very little credit upon the Paranáguá ministry.

COMMERCIAL STATISTICS.

RIO DE JANEIRO, 24th November, 1882.
To the Editor of THE RIO NEWS.

Dear Sir.—We have noticed with pleasure your several attacks on the glaring mistakes which continually occur in the *Jornal do Commercio*'s commercial statistics. Will you allow us to call your attention to the following in yesterday's commercial report furnished by the *Jornal* for transmission to Europe and elsewhere.

Gorduras—Graxa do Rio Grande, pipas... 530 reis

" " " beixiga nã...
We do more or less business in this article, and it happens that this week we have had several orders from Maranhão, S. Paulo, and so on. "Graxa do Rio Grande em pipas" we can not find a single pipe in the market. We have, however, succeeded in buying a small quantity of Montevideo grease which is generally considered inferior to that from Rio Grande, at 580 reis. Rio Grande grease in bladders, of which the *Jornal* says that none is to be had, is easily obtainable; we could refer you to an importer who at the present moment holds a fair stock. Now, what are our customers to think of us when we advise having bought an inferior article for 10% over the price quoted in the leading commercial newspaper? We sincerely hope that your exposure of the irregularities contained in the *Jornal*'s commercial columns will have the effect of making that paper's reporters seek for confirmation of what they are told before they publish it.

We are, Dear Sir,
Yours very truly,

The error above quoted, we regret to say, is only one in the countless many which our influential contemporary has inflicted upon this community. Why it is done we can not determine. The *Jornal* certainly has a staff large enough to procure the fullest and best information the market affords, and its income is so large that the expense would scarcely be felt. Considered professionally, the *Jornal do Commercio* is an anomaly in the newspaper world. Its income is unquestionably among the largest in the world, and if taken in proportion to its circulation and the expense attending its publication, it is undoubtedly the largest. Nearly everything which goes into its columns is paid for, even to valuable communications from prominent men in science and literature. And yet, this newspaper, whose columns are mines of wealth, is so unreliable and in-

accurate that no dependence whatever can be placed upon it.

As we have before said, we do not say these things in a carping or unfriendly spirit. In common with hundreds of others we have been misled by the *Jornal*'s incorrect statistics, and that too through the belief that so wealthy and influential a sheet could not be mistaken. Its professional pride, if nothing else, should naturally lead to the realization of the best possible journalistic work, instead of the poorest. Knowing that it is the foremost among Brazilian journals, a foreigner would expect nothing else. Instead of this we find daily errors of the character above given, and others of a kind which no self-respecting journal should tolerate for one single moment.

That our corrections and those like the above will improve the commercial work on the *Jornal* we are compelled to doubt. As long as this public continues to pay so magnificent a tribute to its proprietors and lessees just so long will it be careless of the opinions and requirements of the few who look upon accuracy as one of the essential elements in commercial statistics. We have again and again corrected the *Jornal*'s errors, but to what purpose? It evidently lacks professional pride and is most liberally paid for poor work; good work, therefore, is clearly out of the question.

THE SNAKE IN SONG.

To the Editor of THE RIO NEWS:

Sir,—The thrilling snake story reported in your last issue merits, if you will permit me to say so, something more than the bald account which you have abridged from the *Ceará* paper. It is a theme, sir, to wake the muse! may I have been daily expecting to see our old friend the "*Musa do Povo*" throw off one of those inspired lays which used to be as unsailing in the columns of the *Jornal* as the milk-jug and butter-dish upon our breakfast-tables. But some occult influence—the comet it may be, the meteorological conditions which in this country are always interfering with things, or some other phenomenon,—has caused the Pierian spring to run dry at last, and the song of the minstrel is hushed.

I hope therefore that I shall not appear too obtuse in forwarding you the accompanying lines for insertion in your next number. I do not seek to influence your judgment in their favour; but I may say that I have been emboldened to take this step, because friends [too partial it may be] who have read them, have assured me that they found in them something which recalled Byron's noblest lyrical achievements.

I remain, &c.
A MINOR POET.

THE TALE OF THE SERPENT.

That snake he crept down like a wolf on the fold,
And his scales were all gleaming in purple and gold,
As he went five swells in their dug out so brave,
Where they rowed lightly o'er the Solomé's wave.
Like young leaves in the summer, so joyous and green,
Those five in their bark for a moment were seen;
Like the leaves of the forest, when autumn hath blown,
Those five, in a jiffy, were scattered and strown.
That dast serpent he spread himself o'er for the lot,
And he choaked his Joâo he nipped ill a shot;
And the eyes of his victim waxed deadly and chill,
As he bolted him whole, like a Holloway's pill!
And there by the snake, with his nostril all wide,
(For ojôa was a tough'un to cram down inside),
And the foam of his grasping lay white on the main,
As he rasped to swallow his victim in vain.
In his jaws was poor João, quite pale with affright,
With the dew on his brow, and his legs out of sight;
"To my family write"—he shrieked out in his woe;
He could tell them no more, for the snake dived below.
And the four who skedaddled are loud in their wail,
And they vow they will never go for a salt;
For the thought of that snake, as he flourished around,
Hath melted their courage like snow on the ground.

FATAL MISREPRESENTATIONS.

We are informed by the *Jornal*'s Paris correspondent [vide *Jornal do Commercio* of November 13th] that "the propaganda destined to make our country better known is

going forward in a methodical manner."

In support of this statement—which in itself is matter for hearty congratulation—reference is made to an article in the *Nord*, of Brussels, which was written from Buenos Aires and evidently based upon the Brazilian exhibit at the Continental Exposition, and to an article in the Paris *Figaro* of the 19th ultimo upon "Baron Hübner in Brazil." This latter article contains copious extracts from the "impressions" of the eminent Austrian traveler, of whom it might be said, in Humboldt's characterization of a famous traveler and writer, that "he has traveled more and seen less than any other man living." Our readers will remember the well founded criticism of the *Província* of S. Paulo upon Baron Hübner's trip through that province, and its wish to see what he would find to say in his voluminous impressions. The *Província*'s wish will now be gratified. Figuratively, the Baron slipped into the province one day and out of it the next, and so quickly was it done that the friendly Paulistas entirely lost sight of him until his name appeared in the Rio papers. And yet, according to the extracts from his "impressions" published in the *Figaro*, the Baron saw everything that a traveler and writer could wish to see, and now writes authoritatively of the country. Poor country!

We have no purpose at this time to enter into any discussion of Baron Hübner's views of Brazil, for the simple reason that we have only a few extracts of them which have already passed through one or two translations. From these extracts, however, it is manifest that his observations were most superficial in character, and are full of the grossest errors. If the *Figaro* does not misrepresent him, he has been telling the European public that he found here an intelligent, spirited, brave, progressive, highly civilized nation which willingly receives foreign elements whose value is fully appreciated. Above all things he found Brazil to be a charitable nation, for she excels all other countries in alleviating want and suffering. He states that beggars are very rarely seen in Rio de Janeiro, and was informed that this is also the case in the provinces. He was also informed that police agents, so common in Europe, are likewise rarely seen throughout the interior, and asserts that there reigns a most perfect concord in all parts of the empire.

There can be no criticism, of course, upon those impressions of the eminent traveler growing out of his reception at the palace, and by the many officials and prominent persons whose hospitality he enjoyed here. All that is perfectly natural, and will lead no one into error. But when Baron Hübner tells a foreign public that beggars and police agents are rarely seen in Brazil, he either proves himself a very defective observer, or a very untrustworthy narrator. If his observations are all of this character, his narrative will hardly be worth the paper it is written upon. In respect to the reception of foreigners, Baron Hübner is certainly statesman enough to know that his statement must either be modified or it will be dangerously misleading. In the sense intended, that of pure hospitality toward a guest, he is certainly right, and his praises are not overdrawn. A traveler will find this one of the most hospitable countries in the world. In a political sense, however, his unqualified assertion is radically misleading. Had he read the speeches upon the electoral reform bill as to the propriety of admitting naturalized foreigners to full citizenship, and the assertions of an eminent senator that a foreigner could not become a Brazilian at heart, and had he experienced the frequent jealousies and obstacles placed in the way of a foreigner who seeks to be something more than a *machina*, he

THE RIO NEWS.

would then have known how unwillingly this foreign element is sometimes received.

A great deal of harm has already been done to Brazil through this class of writing, and more is sure to grow out of the erroneous statements of so eminent an authority as Baron Hübner. The rose-colored pictures of the Rev. Mr. Fletcher have done infinite harm in their way, and much more is sure to result from those of a man like the one under consideration. Brazil is so good a country that she needs no puffing of this character to give her standing in the eyes of the world. If emigrants are to be induced to come here, or capitalists to invest their money here, it is best that they do it with their eyes fully open and with their minds free from all misconception. Besides that, it is no kindness to Brazilians themselves, for it simply perpetuates the errors into which they have fallen and postpones the many reforms which are so urgently needed to give the best and highest development to their country.

SLAVE SALES.

Two of the most shameful announcements which have ever come under our notice appeared in a newspaper of this city on the 25th and 26th ult. The first was the advertisement of the sale of some slaves at S. Fidelis, province of Rio de Janeiro, belonging to the estate of a deceased planter, whose effects were to be judicially sold under an execution held by the Banco do Brasil, and the advertisement was signed by a *juez municipal*. Among others were the following slaves whose ages and physical condition better fit them for the asylum than the slave block:

Pedro, crioulo, (*blind*), 20\$; Militão, (*with elephantiasis*), 50\$; Maria Louisa, 64 years, (*ill*), 40\$; Anastacio, 70 years, without value; Carlota, 30 years, (*with elephantiasis*), without value; Isidoro, (*paralytic*), 50\$.

It will be seen that the whole lot of six slaves is judicially valued at only 160\$, and not one of them is in a condition to work or render any effective service. Now, who will care to buy such property? Freedom will be useless to people such as these, and if no one will buy them from charity, what is to become of them?

The second advertisement contains a list of six Africans, to be sold at Valença, all imported since the anti-slave trade convention of 1831. In justice they should be free. And then comes a list of *dezenas* slaves valued at 5\$000 each! Poor, wretched, oil creatures—the youngest 67 years and the eldest 88 years of age—what unhappy fate can condemn them to the slave block at their time of life! Death alone should be the bidder in such a sale!

PROVINCIAL NOTES

The thermometer marked 87° Fahr. at Campinas on the 25th ult.

A new candle and soap factory is about to be established in Campinas, province of São Paulo.

The small-pox hospital at S. Paulo has been closed, as no new cases have appeared.

The September receipts of the Corumbá (Mato Grosso) custom house amounted to 23,742\$.

The Monitor *Campista* of the 24th ult. notes the capture of more counterfeited 200\$ notes, making a total of 16 thousand.

The British brig *Polly* left Victoria province of Espírito Santo, on the 18th ult., with a cargo of 5,300 bags of coffee, direct for Lisbon.

Twenty slaves were liberated at Passos, Minas Geraes, on the 17th ult., at an aggregate cost of 19,800\$, of which 2,924\$ were from their private savings.

The capital of Mato Grosso, Cuiabá, is having a system of water works constructed at a cost to the province of 168,000\$.

The re-discovery of that old coal mine near the Ipanema iron foundry is announced. This important discovery is becoming just a little monotonous.

The first central coffee cleaning mill in the province of Espírito Santo, at Porto do Cachoeira de Santa Leopoldina, will be formally inaugurated on the 6th or 7th inst.

The Companhia Nacional has purchased the steamer *Huanay* for the Lagoa das Patos service between Rio Grande and Porto Alegre. The price paid was 70,000\$.

Late mail advices from the province of Espírito Santo report the assassination at Itabiporã of Capt. Antonio Gomes da Silveira e Souza by some of his slaves. A friend of the victim was gravely wounded on the same occasion.

In view of the promise of the president of Bahia that import duties should not be collected until the provincial assembly had solved the question, the merchants of Bahia have finally agreed to dispatch their goods. The firmness of the Bahia merchants is worthy of the highest praise.

The *Gazeta*, of Campinas, São Paulo, of the 28th inst., was shown an onion weighing over 700 grammes. This leads the *Gazeta* to remark that "it seems incredible that a country which can produce them in great abundance for the supply of its own markets, should still import onions from abroad for its consumption."

The *Diário do Salvador* of the 24th ult. states that a movement is on foot among some of the merchants of that city to change their residence to São Paulo. They expect to see the running of an express train, by which they can leave São Paulo at 6 and arrive at Santos at 8 a.m. The evening train will leave Santos at 4 and arrive at São Paulo at 6 p.m.

A large meeting of merchants was held at Bahia on the afternoon of the 23rd ult. to adopt measures against the further payment of illegal provincial import duties. An agreement not to dispatch any more goods until the tax is repealed, was signed by 300 merchants. The greatest demonstration prevailed. A formal protest was sent to the imperial government.

Thirty-two Indians are now visiting São Paulo for the purpose of asking agricultural lands on the Serra do Cuitatá. They are now living on the Serra do Mambuá, about 12 leagues from Santos, where they derive a wretched subsistence from fishing. The party consists of 8 men, 10 women and 14 children, 6 children dying during the journey through fatigue and privation.

A slave belonging to Luiz José da Silva Tavares, named Liberato, committed suicide on the 12th ult. in the public jail at Campos, where he had been imprisoned by his master. He first cut his throat with a piece of iron. This proving insufficient, he actually thrust his fingers into the wound and tore his throat open by sheer strength. Even so terrible a death was preferable to slavery.

Several of the new coffee districts of São Paulo are turning out enormous crops. An example of this is given by the *Gazeta*, of Campinas, which states that in the municipality of Jundiaí a coffee orchard of 40,000 trees, belonging to Sr. Floriano Serra, has produced 12,000 arrobas, and that another of 150,000 trees, just beginning to bear, belonging to the Elzeins' buys, has produced 25,000 arrobas. This gives an average of 0.6 pounds per tree for the first, and a trifle over 6 pounds for the second.

A considerable opposition has been aroused in the province of S. Paulo against the decision of the provincial government to apply the proceeds of the Várzea lottery to the founding of a primary school. The measure is said to be a violation of a law of last year, which specified that the money should be devoted to the founding of a lyceum. The municipal council of Campinas has unanimously adopted a protest against the primary-school scheme.

The prices adopted at the new central coffee-cleaning factory at Porto do Cachoeira, Espírito Santo, are as follows: for completion of drying, cleaning, hulling, and grading according to size, 800 reis per 15 kilos; for burningish, 100 reis extra; and for burningish and passing through the *excedente*, completing the selection by hand, 200 reis extra, or 1800 reis per 15 kilos. The price for putting in sacks (sacks not furnished by factory), 80 reis per sack. This makes a cost of 40\$81 per bag for the best prepared coffee, and 3\$281 for the lowest.

The *Diário de Santos* of the 29th ult. relates that a police inspector at Cuiabá telegraphed to the police sub-delegado of Santos on the 27th that a foreigner had been found at Rio das Pedras, two leagues from Cuiabá, dying of hunger. He had been 17 days without food. The Santos sub-delegado then communicated the case to the chief police at S. Paulo, asking that measures should be taken to relieve the poor stranger. The *Durião* was not informed whether the chief of police would feel competent to act without first consulting the president of the province, who in turn would apply to the ministers of justice and finance. In the meantime the poor fellow is starving right straight along.

At Amparo, São Paulo, says a correspondent of the *Correio Paulistano*, the thermometer marked 89° Fahr. in the shade on the afternoon of the 27th ult.

The *Pré-mídia*, of São Paulo, says that the vicinity of Magé-nirim is filled with fugitive slaves, who have run away from neighboring plantations.

The people of Maranhão are organizing a company with a capital of 500,000\$ for the purchase and slaughter of cattle for the public market. At latest advices 120,000\$ had been subscribed.

The provincial assembly of Paraná adopted a vote of thanks on the 1st inst. to Barão de Araújo Ferraz for his great service in placing a loan of 632,000\$ of that province with the Banco do Brasil.

The merchants of Paraná, province of Paraná, held a meeting on the 1st instant to protest against the new tax on sales. They sent a telegram to the government asking for the immediate suspension of the tax.

A number of students in the various colleges at S. Paulo have published their belief that "free-dom of thought is the base of all human dignity." The movement seems to have grown out of the positivist movement in the schools.

The *Commercio* of Iguaçu, S. Paulo, is attracting the attention of a central rice-cleaning mill in that municipality. The production of rice at Iguaçu ought to be an important industry, as the quality of the product is of a very superior character.

The president of the province of Rio de Janeiro has vetoed the budget bill lately passed by the provincial assembly on the ground that several of its provisions are injurious to the interests of the province. In this respect the president is emphatically right.

The Para provincial assembly rejected a proposed measure against the inter-provincial traffic on the 3rd ult. There were only three votes in favor of the project. The churchmen were outspoken in their opposition to restrictions upon the traffic.

The October receipts of the Manaus custom house amounted to 71,826\$464, making a total of 232,099\$ since the 1st of July. The receipts of the *recuperado* amounted to 132,767\$421 in October, and 456,312\$449 in the four months since July 1st. The 3 per cent. additional tax produced a balance for the province of 10,368\$719 over the 120,000\$ due the Amazon Navigation Co.

The October receipts of the Rio Grande custom houses were as follows:

Rio Grande.....	263,166\$263
Porto Alegre.....	247,485 \$53
Uruguai.....	31,977 272
Pelotas (<i>para de renda</i>)....	55,835 961
Total.....	648,595\$359
Total, October 1881.	448,129 287

RAILROAD NOTES

The October receipts of the "Macacá e Campos" railway amounted to 135,863\$490.

The October receipts of the Baturité railway were 53,791\$202, and the expenditures 25,219\$489.

The contractors' engineers of the "Victoria a Natividade" railway of Espírito Santo, have recently completed the surveys of the whole island on which the city of Victoria is built.

The provincial concession for a railway from Victoria to the Minas frontier granted in Hermínio Alves and Frederico Mielles in 1880, has been ratified by the president of Espírito Santo.

A collision between two trains occurred on the Carrancá railway on the 22nd ult. An engine driver and three brakemen were severely injured, while several passengers were slightly wounded. Particulars of the accident have not been published.

The September gross receipts of the Dom Pedro II railway amounted to 1,425,751\$834, and the expenditures to 579,975\$456, leaving a surplus of 845,073\$268. The amount due other lines on mutual freight account was 79,342\$530, which leaves a net surplus of 765,708\$738.

The new Madeira and Manauí surveying commission will comprise the following chief officers: Dr. Carlos Alberto Morsing, engineer-in-chief; Dr. Julio Finias, ts engineer; Drs. Domingos Guilherme Braga Torres and Alcel Ferreira de Matos, chiefs of sections; Ernesto Mattoso Maia Fonte, secretary.

The government has appointed Dr. Carlos Alberto Morsing as chief engineer of the new Madeira and Manauí surveys. He will set out for the Amazon at an early day. The commission will be composed of 16 engineers, besides the necessary number of laborers and attendants. The salary of Dr. Morsing will be 18,000\$, and of his first engineer 12,000\$.

The Bahia and Minas railway now under construction from the port of Carnellas, the first section of which was formally inaugurated on the 9th ult., receives a subvention from the provinces of Bahia and Minas Geraes of 9,000\$ per kilometer. The Bahia section of the road has an extension of 1,422 kilometers, which calls for a total subvention of 12,78,000\$. This subvention is paid by the emission of bonds, upon which the province pays 7 per cent. per annum.

The Leopoldina company announces another reduction in its transportation tariffs, over the reduction made a short time ago. By the new rate of 100 reis of coffee will pay 400 reis from S. Gerardo to Porto Novo da Caia, the two terminal stations, instead of 600 reis as before. A sack of corn will pay 200 reis for the same distance. The cost of telegrams has been reduced, and a reduction of 20 per cent. has been made on return passenger tickets, good for eight days.

From a communication from the president of the Villa Isidro tramway company of this city, published in the *Jornal* of the 26th ult., it seems that that company has already paid a pretty round sum for its privilege. It has donated 100,000\$ to the treasury, 30,000\$ to the municipality, 2,000\$ to the S. José parish school, and has expended 70,000\$ upon the Aterro bridge and over 400,000\$ in opening streets and laying pavements. It would certainly seem just a little burdensome to start a public enterprise in this city.

According to a private letter from Manaus, province of Amazonas, the works of the ill-starred Collins contract on the Madeira and Manauí line have nearly disappeared. The houses, warehouses, bridges, etc., have all fallen into decay, and are rapidly crumbling down. A great part of the stones, instruments, tools, charts, etc., left by the contractors, has been stolen and carried away. There still remain, however, two locomotives (one mounted), a large quantity of rails, machinery, etc., which can be used by any future company.

It is stated that the total invested capital in American railroads January 1, 1882, was \$6,314,000 or more than three times the national debt. The total earnings for 1881 were \$725,275,119 and the net earnings were \$26,651,119. Of the total invested capital \$3,310,000,000 is controlled by nine great corporations, as follows: The Pennsylvania company, \$629,000,000; the Gould associates, \$55,000,000; the Vanderbilt combination, \$364,000,000; the Huntington combination, \$321,000,000; the Jewett and Erie combination, \$347,000,000; the Garrel (Baltimore and Ohio) combination, \$191,000,000; Pennsylvania coal roads, \$58,000,000; the Mitchell management, \$129,000,000; the Garrison management, \$62,000,000. During the 21 years preceding 1881 only 10,082 miles of road were contracted, while during 1881 alone the railway mileage was increased 11,142 miles.

RIVER PLATE ITEMS.

From the Buenos Aires *Herald*, November 24.

The wheat crop in the port of Tandil is expected to give very good results this year.

Two new steamers similar to the *Cómodos* are to be constructed in England for the *Mensagerias Fluviales*.

Mr. Hunter Davidson sails for the South, to survey and report to government upon Bahia Blanca as a harbor.

The Southern railway has a constantly increasing business this month showing a heavier traffic than has been previously reported.

The *Mensagerias Fluviales* company are constructing a steamer in Glasgow to take the place of the *Saturno*. The company intend to run their boats to Paraguay next year.

The manager of the Southern railway has asked for the despatch, free of duty, of the materials for the Bahia Blanca railway which will arrive by the *Clydebank*, *Cambridge* and another vessel.

Telegrams from San Juan dated the 21st are as follows: the exportation of mules for Bolivia and cattle for Chile continues, cattle selling at 40 pesos to 60 to 70 pesos. There is a big demand for flour for Tucuman at 20 lbs. Maize at \$4 per fanega and wheat old at 15.

The *dirección general de rutas* of the province sent a circular to the collectors and *cajadores* that any one absents himself twice, without leave previously obtained, he will be immediately dismissed.

Lenders are to be called for the purchase of 600 lamps for the lighting of the city. Of these, 300 are to be placed in addition to those already in use, and the remaining 300 are to substitute those which have been worn out in different parts of the city.

The municipality have decided to re-establish the old regulation for the holding of raffles, which was abolished at the time lotteries were forbidden in this city. This step has been deemed expedient by the corporation as a means of obtaining funds.

—A man who was smitten with a spirit of enterprise made an experiment in preparing meat for export and sent an experimental lot home, when, due to our policy of crushing all such demonstrations, the government of the province dashed down upon him, and its law officers advised a fine of \$25,000 m/e for such unprofitable practices without first taking out a patent.

—The Provincial Bank has resolved to increase the capital of its branches in the country by the following amounts: Ayacucho branch by 10 millions; Tarija, 12 millions; Azul, 25 millions; Lotes, 15 millions; 25 de Mayo, 11 millions; San Nicolas, 25 millions; San Pedro, 6 millions.

—The municipal engineer has been instructed to prepare the plans for the monument that is to be erected in the northern cemetery, in honor of the late lamented explorer M. Creyvaux. It is hard to say how the corporation will reconcile this proceeding with the dictum of its council in the case of the projected monument of General Garibaldi. The two cases are identical.

—We wish to write no word to hinder any possible success of La Plata, but we suggest that it will be prudent to consider carefully before investing in lots, for speculative purposes. We confess frankly that to us it seems that there will be "no money in it," even though all reasonable success should attend La Plata.

—Captain Yucacovich, the special commissioner of La Plata and the Chargeur Remus steamship companies, leaves shortly for England, to superintend the construction of six new steamers for the navigation of the Paraguay river. The other six ordered by the same gentleman, for the Uruguay and Paraná rivers, may be expected here in August.

—According to the latest statistics there are in the republic of Uruguay, 7,500,000 head of cattle, so it may be safely estimated that the slaughter for the soldiers and markets this year will not come under 1,200,000, considering the drawbacks encountered last year, which prevented the usual amount of slaughter.

—There is much activity in lands at the present moment in all the districts of this province.

—According to the new statutes of the National Bank, the remuneration of the board is to cost three thousand patagonas per month, divided as follows: The President will have 700 hard dollars per month, in lieu of four hundred and fifty as formerly, and the remaining twenty-three hundred fuertes will be equally divided among the directors, raising their stipends to a very handsome sum.

—The square in Cuyó, between San Martín and Recompensa, will be paved by Mr. Nettleship in wood, and from Recompensa to the Beach also in wood by a French system and by another man, Mr. Nettleship has the system which is generally used at the West End of London, and which has actually been placed in New York by an English company, and we predict great success for Mr. Nettleship.

—Sr. Rehorsha, chief of the *reguardos*, has sent a note to the administrator of national revenues, stating that 5,000 packages were despatched from the custom house mole during the last six days of October, belonging to immigrants who arrived in the *Ciudad del Oro*, the *Rougeine* and the *Sud America*. In one of the packages, concealed by a false bottom, were found 1,026 articles of gold jewellery.

—The European papers which do not know the funny proclivities of our senior colleague, which affects to be known as the English organ, are publishing the discovery of diamonds in Cumanal. If a few or many unfortunate men come here diamond-hunting to lose their money and their courage, and go home our informants, we shall have o thank the *Standard* for adding this misleading, tincture to the misery of which it has been guilty. It is heartless to mislead people to their loss, and no pain, spangles or grotesque antics will excuse heartless cruelty. We only wish there might be found gold, diamonds and all other riches in Cumanal or anywhere else, but we protest against false proclamations or misleading inuendous.

LOCAL NOTES

—His Majesty the Emperor Dom Pedro II completed the 57th year of his age on the 2nd instant.

—The new city hall on the *Campos do Acrelano* was formally inaugurated on the 2nd inst.

—The American line steamer *Borghese* left Newport News for Brazilian ports on the 2nd inst.

—The chief of police took occasion on the 29th ult. to inform the president of the board of health that we have a considerable epidemic of small-pox in this city.

—The inspector of the marine arsenal of this city has lately decided to use home-made sail-cloth in all naval vessels in place of the English article heretofore employed.

—The board of directors of the English Bank of Rio de Janeiro, Limited, has declared a dividend of 8 shillings per share, payable on and after the 1st inst.

—By the valuation of 1879 the property of the Rio Gas Co. is estimated to be worth £5,385,598 £12. The interest on this sum at 5 per cent., should the government take the works, will be nearly £70,000 a year.

—According to the latest returns Counselor Fleury, minister of agriculture, has been defeated in Guyana in his effort to secure a re-election. He has as yet shown no purpose to resign, but will, it is reported, contest the election.

—Comandante Diogo Velho, to whom was entrusted the task of preparing regulations for the new law of privileges, delivered a draft of the same to the minister of agriculture on the 25th ult. It is expected that they will soon be published.

—The local press has not yet been able to determine whether the government intends to place an internal or an external loan. It is evident, however, that some kind of a loan is under consideration, and will soon be announced.

—The American minister at this capital, Thomas A. O'Conor, Esq., left for the United States with his family on the 23rd ult., on a leave of absence. He will be absent during the hot season. The legation, in the mean time, will be in charge of Mr. John C. White, secretary of legation.

—In order to aid the new propaganda the *Diário Oficial* made its appearance on the 23rd inst. with an official report in French. Like in all efforts of this character there was a perceptible absence of accuracy and truth in the statements made.

—By an imperial decree of the 30th ult. the general plan of state lotteries has been changed. The new plan provides for lotteries of 120,000\$ each, with 1,700 prizes aggregating 75,600\$, 6,000 tickets, a bonus of 14,100\$, and a tax revenue to the state and its offices of 33,300\$.

—A movement is on foot to have Brazil represented at the coming horticultural exhibition in Belgium. It is a desirable object of course, but after the refusal to send representatives to the important cotton exhibition at Atlanta, United States, it will seem just a little inconsistent.

—The minister of finance has instructed the treasury inspectors not to receive stamped papers or documents, whose stamps have been cancelled with dates, names, or any thing foreign to what is specifically required.

—The Buenos Aires authorities have decided to impose a quarantine on all vessels arriving there from Brazilian ports. In view of the fact that we have not had a case of yellow fever here in a long time, this regulation seems just a little too precise.

—According to the new water works regulations the supply will be obligatory within a specified perimeter, and at the following rates: for all buildings renting at less than 60\$ the supply will be gratis; for buildings renting from 60\$ to 300\$ the tax will be 12¢ per annum; for those renting from 300\$ to 600\$, 24¢ per annum; and for those renting from 600\$ to 1,000\$, 36¢ per annum.

—The *Diário do Brasil* of the 24th ult. calls the attention of the city council to the large number of dogs which infest this city, especially the Glória parish. As far as we can calculate there are 1½ times as many dogs in this city as there are men, women and children. A dog tax, instead of further impositions on commerce, would be a measure of the highest statesmanship, and would be conducive to the greatest happiness of this dog-pestered city.

—It is interesting to note that the president of the Villa Isabel company excuses his asking for the São Christovão line on the ground that "the idea was suggested to the director of the Villa Isabel company by the government having inserted the Botanical Garden lines among the favors which it would give to the company constructing the Copacabana railway." When the government furnishes examples of this character upon which private power can be based and exused, it would certainly seem to be full time for a little sober reconsideration of the whole question of privileges and official interference.

—The oldest compositor in this city is probably Francisco José Pita who completed his 71st year on the 28th ult. He has been employed in the printing office of Messrs. H. Læmmer & Co. for the past 40 years, and is still to be found at his ease. His associates covered his ease with flowers on the anniversary of his birth, and gave him many tokens of their esteem. In addition to this his employers have most generously transformed his salary into a pension, which will hereafter be paid regularly whether he works or not. It is alike honorable both employer and employee that so long a service should be rewarded in this way. Instances of this character are unfortunately very rare.

—The American line steamer *Cyphene* arrived at Pernambuco on the 1st inst.

—The new water rates do not include charitable institutions and houses of an annual rental of 60\$.

—The second new packet of the Canadian line, the *Ville de Gérand*, sailed from Halifax for Brazil on the 25th ult.

—The chief of police has prohibited the sale of lottery tickets on the street without license. There is, however, no apparent abatement of the nuisance.

—The municipal council of this city have decided to experiment with the electric light for night work in the construction and repair of pavements.

—The government has appointed Deputy Martin Francisco Filho to the presidency of the province of Espírito Santo to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Dr. Inglês da Souza.

—The Brazilian consul-general in London recommends that the exhibition of Brazilian coffee samples at the Crystal Palace be continued six months, and generously offers to meet the expense himself.

—The city council has notified the Carris Urbano company that some apparatus must be employed to prevent disasters on its tracks. The inventor of that screen does not seem to be selling his apparatus very rapidly.

—Helper's great scheme for uniting Cape Horn and the North Pole by a longitudinal, double-track railway is still to the front in the United States, the projector having brought the scheme before Congress in a petition for a subsidy.

—In considering the countries to which coffee samples shall be sent from the last exhibition, the Centro da Lavoura e Comercio has resolved to make a special effort as regards Russia. This country is a small consumer of coffee.

—The passage of Venus across the disc of the sun-tomorrow is awaited with eager interest. It is not at all likely that we shall see the phenomenon from the street, but the simple fact that the Emperor will be viewing it from the Observatory, Mr. Cruls from Cape Horn and Baron Teffé from the West Indies gives an interest to it which even the populace feels. For a time science will take precedence over politics.

—According to the latest statistics there are now existing in Brazil 50 privileges for central usages, upon which the government has conceded interest guarantees of 6 and 7 per cent. The aggregate capital involved is 30,050,000\$, of which 24,450,000\$ is guaranteed at 6 per cent., and 5,600,000\$ at 7 per cent. The maximum annual interest liability of the government on these concessions is 1,850,000\$.

—In view of the condemnation of a cargo of flour brought into port by a Baltimore vessel the *Darid Stewart*, and of a petition of the owners for its dispatch for other uses than that of food, the president of the board of health has decided that the damaged flour can not be dispatched and must be destroyed. The anxiety of this official to protect the public against bad flour contrasts pleasantly with his apathy in the matter of protecting the same public against small-pox.

—Some of the New York papers have been informed that the Brazilian sugar exhibition, of which a section has been opened there, is designed to bring producers and consumers nearer together, and to do away with many unnecessary intermediaries. They will be surprised to learn that the enterprise was originated and carried out by the coffee commissioners of this city, and never was designed to do away with one single intermediary.

—The number of deaths from small pox in this city from the 21st to the 30th ult., inclusive, those occurring on the island hospital and at Jurujuba not being reported, was 54, making a total of 161 for the month of November. This is less than the total reported for October. Taking into account the number of patients taken out of the city during the month the new regulations, it becomes evident that the number of deaths must have considerably increased.

—After the removal of the public slaughter house to Santa Cruz it seems that several traitorous butchers of this city have been guilty of having beef, cattle and calves killed in the Niterói slaughter house, and then smuggling the meat into the city. Several have already been fined, and are now invited to pay up amicably, or be publicly prosecuted. The fiscals are instructed to use great vigilance in preventing any other than Santa Cruz meat from entering the city. It might spoil the public taste for bad beef.

—The September reduction in the public debt of the United States amounted to \$14,805,948.93.

ACCORDING to a recent statistical estimate, the present population of the province of Buenos Aires is computed to be 2,626,000.

COMMERCIAL PROSPECTS IN ECUADOR

Commercial prospects in Ecuador are not encouraging. Three out of four of the principal articles of export, viz., cacao, ivory nuts and Peruvian bark show a large decline in exportation, while the export of the fourth — india rubber — has increased. Up to the present, however, no measures have been taken by the Government to prevent the cutting-down of the trees producing this article, and the resources of the country in this respect are being gradually destroyed. As regards the supply of Peruvian bark, it is satisfactory to know that large forests of the best quality of bark trees have recently been discovered in the interior. The low price prevailing in Europe has curtailed the exportation of this article, but supplies are ample. As is the case in Costa Rica, great things are expected from the development of the mining industry.—N. Y. *Commercial Bulletin*, August 28.

ENGLAND'S AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES.

The latest figures in connection with the Australasian colonies of England are most interesting. It seems that the total area of these southern regions is 3,103,993 square miles, with an aggregate population of 1,499,258 males. The land in actual cultivation was, in 1880, 6,371,248 acres, and the agricultural produce amounted to 36,346,550 bushels of wheat, 17,766,875 bushels of oats, 3,506,191 of barley, and 6,335,239 of maize. In addition, there were produced 424,155 tons of potatoes, nearly 1,000,000 tons of hay, and 1,871,861 gallons of wine. As regards flocks and herds, there were of horses 1,064,655; cattle, 7,878,782; sheep, 65,915,765; pigs, 822,337 — making a grand total of 75,681,539. An analysis of these returns demonstrates the very curious fact, that taking the population at 2,715,792, there was nearly a square mile for each inhabitant, while the flocks and herds stood at 24.38 per square mile. The revenue raised by the colonists for the year 1879 amounted to £15,927,488, and in 1880 had amounted to £17,069,016, while the value of the imports increased to £45,060,666, and that of the exports to £48,866,168.

The imports of Mexican coffee into the United States amounted to a value of \$1,730,838 in 1881, against 1,523,658 in 1880.

COMMERCIAL

<i>Rio de Janeiro, December 4th, 1881.</i>
Par value of the Brazilian mil reis (\$100), gold 2 d.
do do do in U. S. \$1.80 per £1. ster. 54.45 cents.
do \$1.00 U. S. coin in Brazilian gold. 188.37
do of £1. ster. in Brazilian gold. 8.88q
Bank rate of exchange on London to day..... 21 1/4
Present value of the Brazilian mil reis (paper) (sterling) 787 rs. gold
do do do coin at \$4.80 per £1. ster. 42.50cts
Value of \$1.00 (\$4.80 currency (paper)) in Brazilian currency (paper)..... 8 353
Value of £1. sterling 11 294

EXCHANGE.

Nov. 24.—The banks continued with the rate of 21 1/2 and the market remained firm but inactive, there being very few takers. In private paper insignificant transactions were effected at 21 1/2, 21 1/16 and 21 1/4 on London and 436 on France. Sovereigns closed at 11 1/20 sellers, 11 1/20 buyers.

Nov. 25.—There was no change to-day in the market and very little business was transacted at yesterday's rates. Sovereigns sold at 11 1/20 cash.

Nov. 27.—The market continued firm but inactive, the banks finding few takers at 21 1/2. Private paper was negotiated at 21 1/16 and 21 1/4. Sovereigns closed at 11 1/20 sellers, 11 1/20 buyers.

Nov. 28.—This morning the banks drew at 21 1/2 and a 9/16 on head offices, but, although very few takers appeared, they withdrew their rates at 1 p. m., no business being reported after that hour. In private paper small transactions were effected at 21 1/16 and 21 1/4 on London and 437-439 on France. Sovereigns sold at 11 1/20 cash.

Nov. 29.—To-day the banks opened with the rate of 21 1/2 at which very little business was done. Private paper on London was negotiated at 21 7/16 and 21 1/4. On France some transactions took place at 445 and 446 bank and 441-443 private. Sovereigns sold at 11 1/20 sellers and 11 1/20 cash.

Nov. 30.—A further reduction of 1/2 was made to-day in the rate of the banks, they affording that of 21 1/4, but no business worth mentioning was done at this rate, nor at 448 on Paris and 552 on Hamburg. Private paper on London was sold at 21 1/4 for the packet of the 1st, and at 21 1/4 for that of the 9th. Sovereigns closed at 11 1/20 sellers, 11 1/20 buyers.

December 1.—To-day the market showed considerably more firmness and though the official rate of 21 1/4 was not altered by the banks, they drew on head office at 21 5/16, finding, however, but few takers. The business in private paper was insignificant at 21 1/4. Sovereigns closed at 11 1/20 sellers, 11 1/20 buyers.

Dec. 4.—To-day the banks opened again with the official rate of 21 1/4 and private paper was negotiable at 21 5/16.

A dividend of 5 1/2 per cent. has been declared by the "Recife & S. Francisco" company.

The Brazilian Submarine Telegraph Co. has declared a dividend for the half year ending June 30 at the rate of 7 per cent. per annum.

The net receipts of the São Paulo Gas Co. for the half year ending June 30 amounted to £5,921. A dividend of 10 per cent. per annum has been declared, and £1,000 have been carried to the reserve fund.

THE RIO NEWS.

SALES OF STOCKS AND SHARES

		for good, 2/4 for medium and 3/4 per cwt. for the lowest grades.
November 2nd.		
14 Six per cent apolices.	1,070 000	
11 do	1,070 000	
12 Banco do Brasil.	207 000	
135 do	208 000	
72 Navegacão Nacional and serie.	150 000	
44 União Minera RR.	170 000	
10 Santo Antonio de Padua RR.	183 000	
20 Carris S. Christovão.	355 000	
75 Debentures Oeste de Minas RR.	200 000	
50 do Santa Isabel do Rio Preto RR.	192 000	
152 Banco Predial hyp. notes.	760	
November 23rd.		
5 Six per cent apolices.	1,070 000	
2 Santa Isabel Rio Preto RR.	183 000	
20 Carris S. Christovão.	355 000	
13 Banco Predial hyp. notes.	760	
50 Sorocabana R.R. [outside sale].	115 000	
November 24th.		
6 Six per cent apolices.	1,072 000	
10 do	1,073 000	
12 Provincial apolices of 500\$.	1020	
20 Banco do Commercio and serie.	217 000	
1 Banco Rural.	285 000	
63 Agricola Paulista.	43 000	
58 Sorocabana R.R.	112 000	
50 Debentures Santa Isabel do Rio Preto RR.	193 000	
10 do Oeste de Minas RR.	200 000	
219 Banco Predial hyp. notes.	760	
50 Banco de Credito Real de S. Paulo [o.s.]	50 000	
November 25th.		
4 Six per cent apolices.	1,072 000	
4 do	1,074 000	
50 do	1,075 000	
85 Provincial apolices of 500\$.	1020	
10 Banco do Commercio.	215 000	
8 Banco do Commercio and serie.	210 000	
50 Integridade Insurance.	81 000	
100 Docas D. Pedro II, for June 30, 1883.	135 000	
199 Villa Isabel.	253 000	
40 Debentures S. Isabel do Rio Preto.	192 000	
50 Banco Predial hyp. notes.	760	
19 do do	75 1/2 %	
75 Debentures Oeste de Minas RR. (o.s.)	200 000	
November 26th.		
4 Six per cent apolices.	1,072 000	
4 do of small amounts.	1,070 000	
4,500\$ Provincial apolices of 500\$.	1020	
12 Banco do Brasil.	208 000	
35 Banco Commercial.	240 000	
30 Previdencia Insurance.	44 000	
25 Confiança Insurance.	52 000	
89 Carangola RR.	185 000	
12 Ferry debentures.	93	
77 Banco do Brasil hyp. notes (75).	66 1/2	
40 Banco Predial hyp. notes.	760	
November 27th.		
4 Six per cent apolices.	1,072 000	
4 do of small amounts.	1,070 000	
4,500\$ Provincial apolices of 500\$.	1020	
12 Banco do Brasil.	208 000	
35 Banco Commercial.	240 000	
30 Previdencia Insurance.	44 000	
25 Confiança Insurance.	52 000	
89 Carangola RR.	185 000	
12 Ferry debentures.	93	
77 Banco do Brasil hyp. notes (75).	66 1/2	
40 Banco Predial hyp. notes.	760	
November 28th.		
7 Six per cent apolices.	1,073 000	
37 do	1,079 000	
1 do	1,078 000	
600\$ do of small amounts.	1,060 000	
40 Banco Commercial.	240 000	
50 Botanical Garden R.R.	180 000	
70 Debentures Oeste de Minas R.R.	200 000	
183 Banco Predial hyp. notes.	760	
50 Integridade Insurance (outside sale).	79 000	
56 Doca's D. Pedro II.	43 500	
November 29th.		
16 Six per cent apolices.	1,070 000	
10 do	1,080 000	
3 do	1,078 000	
24 Banco Industrial.	215 000	
248 Banco Predial hyp. notes.	760	
17 Macae e Campos debentures.	93 000	
50 Integridade Insurance (outside sale).	88 000	
November 30th.		
5 Six per cent apolices.	1,078 000	
7 do	1,075 000	
500\$ do of small amounts.	1,060 000	
45 Transports Marítimos.	190 000	
50 Alto Muriá R.R.	170 000	
18 Minas de Capivara S. B.	33 000	
44 Banco Predial hyp. notes of Nov. 3.	75 1/2 %	
72 do with interest.	76 1/2	
December 1st.		
30 Banco do Commercio.	225 000	
59 Fideicomis Insurance.	230 000	
64 Confiança Insurance.	52 000	
100 Nova Pernambuco Insurance.	37 000	
60 Brail Industrial, for Dec. 20.	260 000	
12 S. Isabel do Rio Preto RR.	170 000	
72 Debentures Macae e Campos RR.	93 000	
27 Docas D. Pedro II (out. value).	135 000	

MARKET REPORT.

Rio de Janeiro, December 4th, 1883.

Exports.

Coffee.—A confluence of heavy receipts, unfavorable advice from consuming centers, and a consequent further reduction of currency prices here, have again been the characteristic features of our market during the 30 days under review since our last report, on the 23rd ult.

A decline of 10 reis per 10 kilos took place on the 24th ult., answering to the same extent on the 26th, and a further one of 70 reis for the medium and low grades, and 140 reis for the better ones on the 29th.

At these reductions a fair amount of business has again been transacted, principally for Europe, the sales since the 23rd ult. amounting to 145,200 bags, viz:

55,240 bags for United States

79,590 " Europe

7,730 " Cape of Good Hope

3,210 " Elsewhere

145,200 bags.

The total sales in November amounted to 434,130 bags, viz:

166,170 bags for United States

241,630 " Europe

15,700 " Cape of Good Hope

11,040 " Elsewhere

434,130 bags.

The sterling cost of coffee to-day, compared with that on the 23rd ult. shows a decline of 3/4 per cent for superior, 3/10

for good, 2/4 for medium and 3/4 per cwt. for the lowest grades.

The clearances have been:

United States:

Nov. 23 Galveston Nov 1rg Kjartan

24 New York Br str Oléres (& 1732 Santos)

25 New Orleans Nov 1rg Carnel

26 New York Br str Béth

Dec. 1 Baltimore Am brk Andia J. Bauer

27 London Br str La Plata

28 Havre a La Plata

29 Stockholm La Plata

30 Gothenburg La Plata

31 Lisbon f. o. Dutch sch. Thalassa

32 do Ge lega Stena

33 Marseilles Fr str La France

34 Gibraltar f. o. Gr leg Alberto Meyer

35 Hamburg Br str Béth (& 630 Santos)

36 Havre Fr str Sally

37 Lisbon f. o. Gr leg Albert

38 Liverpool Br str Arcozela

39 Bordeaux

40 Marseilles etc. Br str Gloucest (& 807 Santos)

41 Hamburg Fr str Gloucest

42 Lisbon f. o. Br leg Agostinho

43 Liverpool Br str Agostinho

44 Lisboa f. o. Br leg Agostinho

45 Liverpool Br str Agostinho

46 Liverpool Br str Agostinho

47 Liverpool Br str Agostinho

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188 Liverpool Br str Agostinho

189 Liverpool Br str Agostinho

190 Liverpool Br str Agostinho

191 Liverpool Br str Agostinho

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AND COMPANY.**

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*General Banking, Mercantile and
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at the most advantageous terms.

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AND MONTEVIDEO.

Capital £ 1,000,000
Capital paid up £ 500,000
Reserve fund £ 105,000

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LONDON,*

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*Messrs. J. H. SCHROEDER & Co.,
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OF
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BRANCHES:

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Ditto, paid up £ 500,000
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THE LONDON JOINT STOCK BANK,
and transacts every description of Banking business.

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D. Pedro II R. R. Freight Dispatches.**

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The statutes of this School, which will be opened on the
15th instant, are being distributed at

Rua do Ouvidor, No. 129
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Rua do Hospício, No. 93.

**ROYAL MAIL
STEAM PACKET COMPANY**

*Under contracts with the British and Brazilian
Governments for carrying the mails.*

**TABLE OF DEPARTURES,
1882**

Date	Steamer	Destination
Dec. 9	Eibe.....	Bahia, Pernambuco, Lisboa, Southampton and Havre.

The outward steamers are due here about the 25, 30 and 16
of each month; the former proceeding to Santos, the two
latter to Montevideo and Buenos Ayres, after the necessary
stay in this port.

For freights and passages apply to
E. W. MAY, Suupt.,
Rua 1º de Março No. 49.

**UNITED STATES AND BRAZIL
MAIL STEAMSHIP CO.**

The packet

CYPHRENES

Expected on or about the 8th inst. will sail for
NEW YORK

on or about the 14th inst., calling at
BAHIA, PERNAMBUCO, MARANHÃO, PARÁ
and ST. THOMAS

For passages and information apply to
Wilson, Sons & Co., Limited, Agents

No. 2 Praça das Marinhas,
Amfora cargo to
W. C. Peck,
No. 6, Praça do Comércio

**L IVERPOOL, BRAZIL AND RIVER
PLATE MAIL STEAMERS.**

UNDER CONTRACT WITH THE
**BELGIAN AND BRAZILIAN
GOVERNMENTS.**

November Departures:

To New York:

Platway	Nov. 9th
Képlos	10th
Gutsos	10th
Olivet	20th
Rita	20th

To Europe:

Lehita	Nov. 9th
Hercules	10th
Hippocrene	10th
Galea	20th

To the Southern Ports:

Caravela	Nov. 16th
Citronella	17th
Concordia	17th
Castor	25th

To the River Plate:

Bristol	Nov. 16th
Humber	17th

The *Coasting Packet*, belonging to the same Company
run in connection with the above-named steamers, leaving RIO
DE JANEIRO every Wednesday for SANTOS, PARANÁ,
SANTA CATARINA, RIO GRANDE DO SUL,
and PORTO ALEGRE.

LAMPION & HOLT,
21 Water Street, Liverpool.
ARTHUR HOLLAND & Co.,
17, Leadenhall Street, London

Agents in Rio de Janeiro: —

Norton, Megaw & Co.

Rua 1º de Março, No. 82.

E AMES VACUUM BRAKE CO.

Watertown, New York.

MANUFACTURERS OF
**VACUUM AND DUPLEX AUTOMATIC
RAILWAY BRAKES.**

The Ames Vacuum Brake is confidently offered as the most
efficient, simple, durable and cheapest power brake in the
market. It can be seen in operation upon over seventy roads

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each;
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